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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/624,603	07/23/2003	Koji Yoshida	SON-2781	7588

23353 7590 05/08/2006

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EXAMINER

LE, DANG D

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2834

DATE MAILED: 05/08/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/624,603

Applicant(s)

YOSHIDA ET AL.

Examiner

Dang D. Le

Art Unit

2834

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 March 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 May 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) * | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 3/8/06 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 12 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Noguchi (2004/0104631).

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5. Applicant cannot rely upon the foreign priority papers to overcome this rejection because a translation of said papers has not been made of record in accordance with 37 CFR 1.55. See MPEP § 201.15.

Regarding claim 1, Noguchi shows (Figures 9-11) a small vibration motor comprising:

- A rotor yoke (55) in which an unbalance weight (55b) and a magnet (666) are placed and which is fixed to a shaft (22);
- A driving torque generating coil (S6) that is placed on a substrate (1b) so as to face said magnet;
- driving electronic parts (1c) placed on said substrate, each of which comprises an integrated circuit comprising non-molded bare chips supplying an alternating current to said driving torque generating coil to rotate said rotor yoke around said shaft;
- A bottom plate (111) which supports said substrate and to which a radial bearing (11a) that said shaft is engaged with is fixed; and
- A cover (c) for covering said rotor yoke, said driving torque generating coil and said driving electronic parts, which is adhered to said bottom plate, wherein said substrate comprises a flexible substrate, and said driving torque generating coil is electrically connected to said flexible substrate,
- Wherein said substrate protrudes (to the right in Figure 9) from said cover adhered to said bottom plate and comprises a terminal (not shown) formed thereon,

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- Wherein said terminal is engaged with a connector mounted on an external member and is thereby electrically connected with said external member.

(Although Noguchi does not specifically show the features, it is noted that in the art of motor, there must be terminals connecting with a connector in order to supply current to the coils of the motor. Otherwise, the motor is not operable.)

Regarding claim 12, Noguchi shows (Figures 9-11) a vibration motor comprising:

- A relatively thin metal bottom plate (111 and paragraph 0045);
- A rotatable shaft (22) supported by at least a radial bearing (111a) on said thin metal bottom plate, and
- A thrust bearing (111b) at an end of said shaft near said thin metal bottom plate;
- A rotor yoke (55) rotatable with said rotatable shaft and on which an unbalanced weight (55b) and a magnet (666) are placed so that rotation of said yoke causes vibration;
- A flexible substrate (1b) supported by said thin metal bottom plate;
- A flexible generating coil (S6) placed on said flexible substrate so as to face said magnet for generating a driving torque;
- Driving electronic parts (1c) placed on said substrate, which comprises an integrated circuit comprising non-molded bare chips, supplying an alternating current to said driving torque generating coil to rotate said rotor yoke around said shaft; and

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- A cover (c) for covering said rotor yoke, said driving torque generating coil and said driving electronic parts, which cover is adhered to said bottom plate.

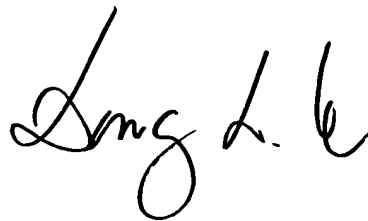
Information on How to Contact USPTO

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dang D. Le whose telephone number is (571) 272-2027. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Darren Schuberg can be reached on (571) 272-2044. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

5/3/06



**DANGLE
PRIMARY EXAMINER**



REPLACEMENT SHEET

1/12

FIG.1A

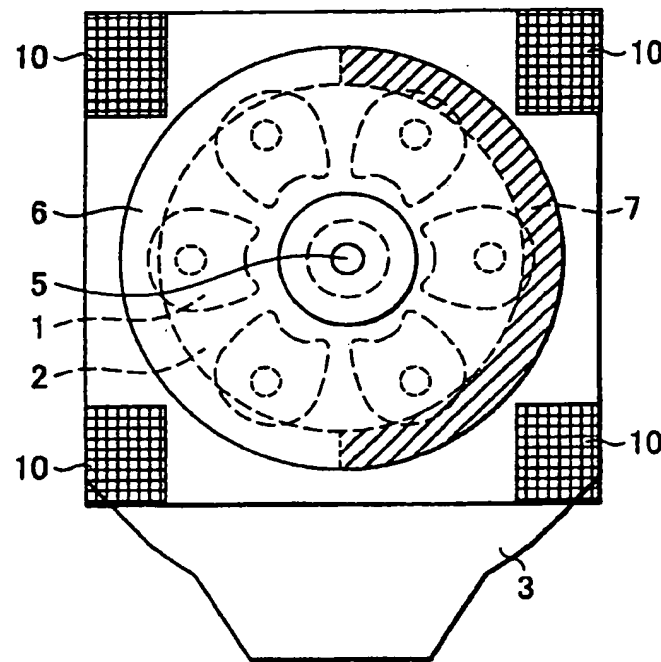
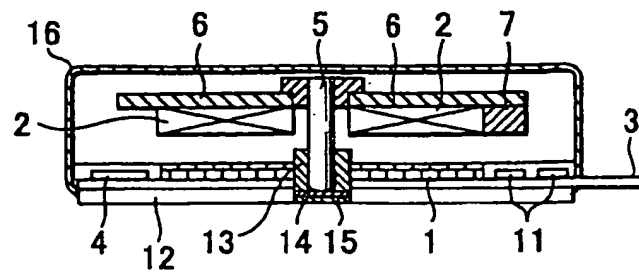


FIG.1 B



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FIG.10A

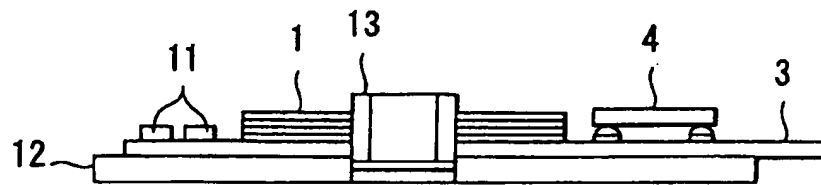


FIG.10B

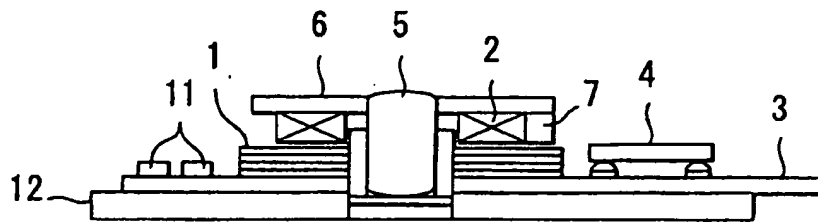
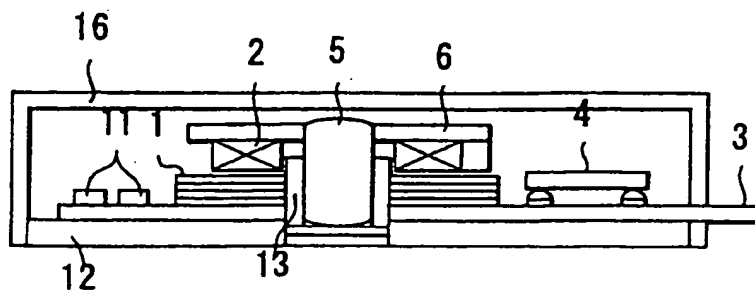


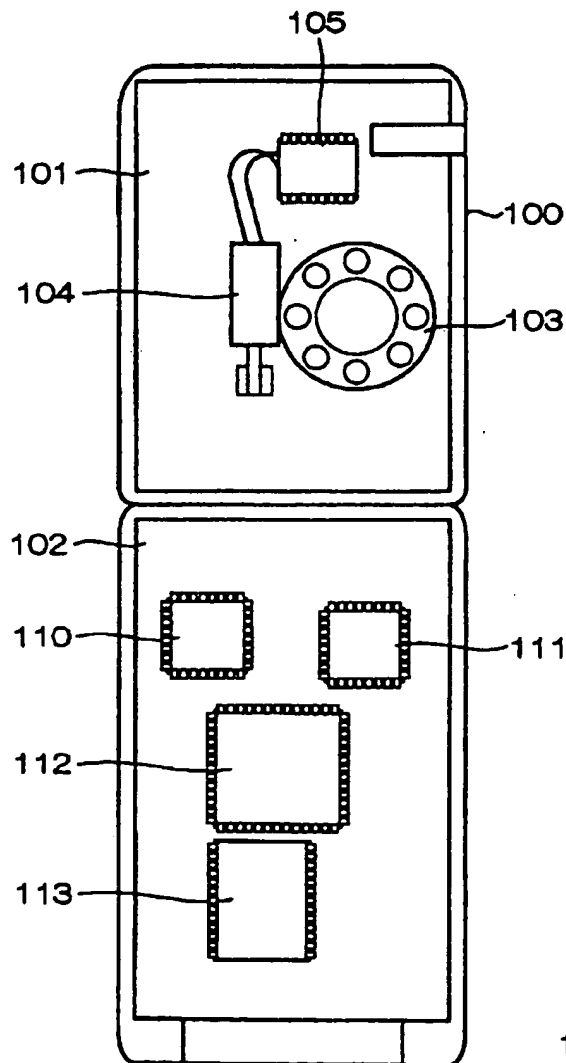
FIG.10C



APPROVE DC J/3/08

12/12

FIG.14A
PRIOR ART



APPROVE
DL
05/03/06

FIG.14B
PRIOR ART

